

OHIO.

PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTED AT

A MEETING OF INHABITANTS OF FAIRFIELD,

*Against the Bank of the United States.*

MAY 19, 1834.

Read, and laid upon the table:

In pursuance of public notice, a large and respectable number of the democratic republicans of the township of Fairfield and its vicinity, in the county of Columbiana, Ohio, convened on Saturday, the 26th day of April, 1834, at the public school-house in the town of Columbiana, in said township.

Upon motion, Col. Jacob Roller was chosen President, John Young, Esq., Mr. Peter Bushong, and Mr. William Altman, Vice Presidents, and Dr. Gustavus Allen and J. G. Williard, Esq., Secretaries.

The object of the meeting having been stated by the President, and upon motion, a committee of nine gentlemen was appointed to draught a preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting. The following named gentlemen were appointed said committee, viz.

Dr. Gustavus Allen, Mr. Wm. D. Lepper, jr., Wm. Moody, Esq., Mr. Benjamin Blackburn, Joseph Thompson, jr. Esq., Mr. John Windle, Mr. John Sturgeon, Mr. George Candel, and Robert Forbes, Esq., who withdrew, and after some time Dr. G. Allen, chairman of said committee, reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by said meeting:

Whereas the critical moment has arrived that loudly calls for the united energies of the nation, against a moneyed oligarchy that threatens the overthrow of this great republic. From the time that renowned statesman, Andrew Jackson, challenged the legal transactions of the Bank of the United States, to the present period, the country has been agitated to such a degree, by the oppressive and needless conduct of the Bank, that not only the pillars but the pedestal of our liberty has been made to tremble. Ever since the grant of her unconstitutional charter, she has evinced a strong disposition to cherish the growth of aristocracy, and, by favoring the few with large accommodations, to create distinctions among the citizens repugnant to the nature of our free institutions. And whereas merit and virtue alone should constitute the only true distinctions worthy to be tolerated among a free people. The Bank was insti-

tuted for the sole purpose of facilitating the fiscal concerns of the General Government, and the equitable accommodation of the public. How far has it fulfilled the end? Let the fee'd attorneys, the purchased presses, and the favored few, that are lording it over the farmer and mechanic, answer. The purity of the power of choice is the bulwark of the constitution, but even that sacred fortification has been assailed, and the Bank and her minions, regardless of the consecrated rights of freemen, have waged a war against the administration of the people. It is high time for the people to rise in their united power, to defend the liberties of their country, and the President of their choice. Therefore,

1st. *Resolved*, That we view with regret the Bank of the United States as the master spirit in the perturbed state of the country, the distraction of our councils, and the agitation of the people, by provoking large curtailments of the circulating medium, in order to press the oppressed, thereby causing them to intercede for its recharter.

2d. *Resolved*, That we are fully satisfied of the dishonesty of the Bank, in cutting off the moneyed resources of the country unnecessarily, as the time to the expiration of the charter, and the allowed two years after, were sufficient to the gradual adjustment of her affairs.

3d. *Resolved*, That we believe the Bank, falsely called the United States Bank, to be a dangerous institution to the liberties of our country; and had its charter been renewed for another twenty years, or for a shorter term of years, the liberty of our country would not be worth preserving.

4th. *Resolved*, That we approve most cordially the removal of the public deposits from the Bank of the United States, and that a return of the same would virtually be a renewal of its charter.

5th. *Resolved*, That the local State banks are fully adequate to the transactions of the fiscal operations of the General Government, and that the *legus legum*, the constitution and the laws, fully sustain the President and Secretary of the Treasury in the removal of the public deposits.

6th. *Resolved*, That power is never conferred but for the sake of the public good, whereas the Bank of the United States has corrupted its charter, intermeddled at elections, and corrupted the press; and had it not been for the *Pitt*-like conduct of our talented and illustrious Chief Magistrate, Andrew Jackson, this fair fabric must have nodded to its fall at the feet of it and nullification; however, let every citizen bear in mind, that virtue and talents in the chair of State are the safest shield.

7th. *Resolved*, That we hail with exultation the Committee of Ways and Means; never did those empowered to receive a report, receive a better or an abler one, than that returned on the deposits and the United States Bank. Glory is the companion of virtue.

8th. *Resolved*, That we view the course pursued by the Hon. Thomas Ewing, Senator from Ohio, with the utmost abhorrence. Your country has received a wound into which you, vulture-like, infix your talons, for the purpose of irritating and keeping it open; therefore we recommend that a dignified petition be presented to the next Legislature of Ohio, soliciting that honorable body to request your resignation, and, like another *Catiline*, retire to rest.

9th. *Resolved*, That we view the upbraiding speech of Henry Clay, Senator from Kentucky, as a mere "*brutum fulmen*," a loud but ineffectual menace; and that his declaratory resolutions against the President

are unsupported by the constitution and laws, and that his whole demeanor, since he took his seat in the Senate, has been influenced by chagrin and envy, which fully accounts for the gladiator-like conduct of the man, instead of the dignified deportment of the Senator.

10th. *Resolved*, That the thanks and lasting gratitude of the republican party is due to the Hon. Thomas H. Benton, for the able and dignified support he has given the administration, against a vindictive and unprincipled faction in the Senate of the United States, headed by Messrs. Clay, Webster, Calhoun, & Co., who seem to act more with a settled and preconcerted determination to retard the regular legislative business of the nation, clog the wheels of Government, and embarrass the just and purely republican measures of our venerated President, than to comply with the requisitions of their oath of office.

11th. *Resolved*, That Senators Benton, Forsyth, Grundy, and others, of the Senate, have fought a mighty and ever-memorable political battle in the Senate of the United States, as well as Polk, Beardsley, Peyton, Lytle, and others, of the House of Representatives, on the deposite question. Every democrat of these United States will hail them as the harbingers of good and of light undistinguishable.

12th. *Resolved*, That the democratic representatives from this State, the Hon. Thomas Morris, of the Senate, Hon. John Thomson, the Representative from this district, and the Hon. Leavitt, Jones, Patterson, McLene, Webster, Lytle, Hamer, Allen, Mitchell, and Chaney, are true to the trust reposed in them by the democratic freemen of this State, as well as by their more immediate constituents.

13th. *Resolved*, That the resignation of the Hon. Wm. C. Rives, Senator of the United States from Virginia, plainly indicates the principles of the man, as being a truly Jeffersonian democrat; the Old Dominion will reward him, and the people of these United States will fully appreciate his disinterestedness.

14th. *Resolved*, That the late Government directors of the Bank of the United States deserve well of their country for their late exposition of the character of said Bank, and that we view with unmingled indignation their rejection by the Senate of the United States.

15th. *Resolved*, That the *proclamation* of Andrew Jackson, communicated to the Senate and House of Representatives under date of January 16th, 1833, is not more compatible and consonant to the true spirit of the constitution of this our happy Union, for sound demonstration, and acknowledged republican doctrine, than is the *protest* of the same functionary, recently communicated to the Senate of the United States, touching the "*usurpations*" and "*violations*" of the constitution and laws of the same, charged by the latter against the former for the removal of the public depositories.

16th. *Resolved*, That we recommend to our democratic brethren throughout the State the propriety of holding meetings, for the purpose of expressing their feelings in regard to the late decision of Congress on the Bank question; and for the purpose of calling upon Senator Ewing to retire from a station in which he has, from the commencement, misrepresented their views and interests.

17th. *Resolved*, That, at the election in the fall of 1832 for electors of President and Vice President in this State, the question at issue was bank or no bank.

18th. *Resolved*, That Martin Van Buren, the Vice President of the United States, Cincinnatus-like, was called by a virtuous and magnanimous people from a private citizen to the second office within their gift, and well he deserves it.

19th. *Resolved*, That we highly approve of the nomination of Governor Robert Lucas for re-election to the office of Governor, by the late democratic State convention.

20th. *Resolved*, That we cordially approve of the course pursued by Colonel Joseph Cable, editor and publisher of the Ohio Patriot and Shield, in sustaining the measures of the national administration and of the democratic party, and we warmly recommend him to the support of the friends of liberty and equal rights.

21st. *Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the President, Vice Presidents, and Secretaries, and published in the Ohio Patriot and Shield.

22d. *Resolved*, That a copy of the foregoing proceedings be communicated to each of our democratic Representatives in Congress from this State.

On motion, the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

JACOB ROLLER, *President*.

JOHN YOUNG,

PETER BUSHONG,

WM. ALTMAN,

*Vice Presidents.*

GUSTAVUS ALLEN,

J. G. WILLIARD,

*Secretaries.*